

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 2 are withdrawn. By this Amendment, claims 1-4 are amended. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for the features added to claims 1 and 3 is found at, for example, page 8, lines 6-12 of the specification, and at, for example, Fig. 9.

I. Information Disclosure Statements

Applicant requests the Examiner to return initialed forms PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) filed on July 11, 2003 and June 3, 2005, with each of the references cited therein initialed by the Examiner, as evidence that the references cited in each IDS were considered by the Patent Office.

II. Rejoinder

Non-elected claims 1 and 2 are method claims that include all of the features of claim 3. In accordance with MPEP 821.04, if product claims are elected and subsequently allowed, any non-elected process claims that depend from or otherwise include all of the limitations of the allowed product claims should be rejoined. Accordingly, because claim 3 is allowable for the reasons discussed below, rejoinder of claims 1 and 2 is requested.

III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. In particular, the Office Action asserts that "the remaining portion" lacks antecedent basis, "the linear portion" is not divided to have a remaining portion, it is confusing as to whether "a linear portion" or "a portion close to the base layer" is the portion with the greater width, and the terms "thin" and "close" are indefinite.

Claim 3 is amended to recite "a patterned film disposed on a base layer and including a linear portion, the linear portion has a first portion and a second portion, wherein the second portion is closer to the base layer than the first portion and wherein the second portion

touches the base layer, the second portion having a width greater than a width of the first portion." Claims 3 and 4 are amended to remove the term "thin."

Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is overcome. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,165,587 (Nonaka); and claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,289,578 (Kamijima). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Nonaka and Kamijima each disclose the features of claims 3 and 4. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that Nonaka discloses a linear portion have a zig-zag T-shaped portion wherein the linear portion has a portion close to the base layer that has a width greater than a width of the remaining portion. The Office Action also asserts that Kamijima discloses a linear portion having a portion close to the base layer and having a width greater than a width of the remaining portion.

However, Nonaka does not disclose a linear portion having a "T" shape. As is clearly shown in Fig. 3 of Nonaka, the pattern 5 zig-zags back and forth, but does not have a "T" shape.

Kamijima discloses films 221, 222 and 23 that form a "T" shape. However, the portion having a width greater than the remaining portion does not contact the base layer 1. See Fig. 2 of Kamijima.

That is, neither Nonaka nor Kamijima discloses a patterned film disposed on a base layer and including a linear portion, wherein the linear portion has a first portion and a second portion, wherein the second portion is closer to the base layer than the first portion and wherein the second portion touches the base layer, the second portion having a width greater than a width of the first portion, as recited in claim 3.

For the foregoing reasons, claim 3, as well as claim 4 depending therefrom, are not anticipated by Nonaka or Kamijima. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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